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NEWSLINE

A Newsletter of the Old Colony Planning Council

02 70 School Street, Brockton, MA 02301-4097

Elects
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Kent Joyce, Delegate town on Easton was lected as the Old Colony Council Secretary for the -2003. The election was October 30, 2002. Ms. been the Council delegate and is looking forward to s the Secretary to the

Meeting

Colony Metropolitan Organization (MPO) and endorsed the FFY Transportation ent Program, the FFY nified Planning Work and the Revisions to the Highway System on 12, 2002.

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MR. GERARD DEMPSEY
Receives the New England Association of Regional Councils Oliver Nelson Award

Mr. Gerard Dempsey, Old Colony Planning Council's Pembroke Delegate received the **2002 New England Association of Regional Councils (NEARC) Oliver Nelson Award.** NEARC annually recognizes a Regional Council policy person with the Oliver Nelson Award in recognition of outstanding contributions made toward furthering the cause of regionalism in New England. Mr. Dempsey a long time OCPC delegate, past Council President and past Chairman of Massachusetts Associations of Regional Planning Agencies (MARPA). He also has served as Treasurer of the Pembroke Housing Authority, Chairman of the Pembroke Board of Assessors, a member of the Board of Directors of the Vision 2020 a Southeastern Massachusetts Planning Consortium and is a Pembroke businessman. Mr. Dempsey was also recently appointed to the Pembroke Zoning Board of Appeals

the entire region and low altitude (neighborhood level) images will be available along the Route 24 and Route 3 Corridors. The neighborhood level images will provide 4 to 8 inch resolution from oblique angle. The pictometry software will allow horizontal and vertical measurements as well as the ability to link to OCPC's existing GIS Software. Pictometry images should be available in late December.

Communities Given More Time on Executive Order 418

Communities seeking state planning funds under Executive Order 418 have been given extra time. Under EO 418, eligible communities can apply for up to $30,000 each in funds to plan for new affordable housing opportunities while balancing economic development, transportation infrastructure

E is a quarterly newsletter published by the Old Colony Planning Council. Any questions or comments regarding NEWSLINE directed to Pasquale Ciaramella, Executive Director at (508) 583-1833.

FFICERS: David A. Johnson, President; Jeanmarie Kent Joyce, Secretary; and, Joseph P. Landolfi, Treasurer.

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A Newsletter of the Old Colony Planning Council

Fall 2002 70 School Street, Brockton, MA 02301-4097

OCPC Elects Jeanmarie Kent Joyce As Secretary

Jeanmarie Kent Joyce, Delegate from the town on Easton was recently elected as the Old Colony Planning Council Secretary for the year 2002-2003. The election was held on October 30, 2002. Ms. Joyce has been the Council delegate since 1996 and is looking forward to serving as the Secretary to the Council.

MPO Meeting

The Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) approved and endorsed the FFY 2003-2007 Transportation Improvement Program, the FFY 2003 Unified Planning Work Program and the Revisions to the National Highway System on September 12, 2002.

MR. GERARD DEMPSEY

Receives the New England Association of Regional Councils Oliver Nelson Award

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GIS Update

OCPC recently received full color, 1-meter resolution orthophotographs (digital aerial photographs) that were taken during spring of 2001. In related news, OCPC will serve as a regional distributor of pictometry images and software recently purchased by the MassHighway. Pictometry images are color oblique images. High altitude (community level) images will be available for the entire region and low altitude (neighborhood level) images will be available along the Route 24 and Route 3 Corridors. The neighborhood level images will provide 4 to 8 inch resolution from oblique angle. The pictometry software will allow horizontal and vertical measurements as well as the ability to link to OCPC's existing GIS Software. Pictometry images should be available in late December.

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improvement and open space preservation. The state has extended the end of the program from June 30, 2003 until December 30, 2003. The following deadlines apply: Requests for Equivalent Plans will be accepted until October 31, 2002; Scopes of Work may be submitted until December 31, 2002; planning work authorized under approved Scopes of Work must be completed no later than December 31, 2003.

To date, five OCPC Communities are engaged in various phases of the process. These five Communities are Abington, Pembroke, Stoughton, West Bridgewater and Whitman.

EDA APPROVES CEDS UPDATE

The United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration recently approved the Old Colony Planning Council Economic Development District June 2002 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Update. This report discusses economic development in the district and includes a list of priority economic development projects for the region. Copies can be obtained from OCPC. Contact Bruce Hughes

OCPC EDD SEEKS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

The Old Colony Planning Council Economic Development District is seeking economic development projects for funding. Such projects might include business incubators, industrial parks or infrastructure improvements. Applicants for such projects must be governments or non-profit entities. Contact Bruce Hughes

OCPC [illegible] SOR – INTERA[illegible] SATELLITE TELECAST

The Old Colony Planning Council, the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council are co-sponsoring an interactive satellite telecast entitled "Grow Your Community Investment with Regional Economic Development Clusters". The event will be held Thursday, November 7, 2002 from 3 to 4 PM in Room M307 of the John Joseph Moakley Center on the campus of Bridgewater State College. Contact Bruce Hughes

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU TO CONDUCT 2002 ECONOMIC CENSUS

The U.S. Census Bureau will conduct the Year 2002 Economic Census in December, 2002. This census is conducted every five years. The Economic Census provides reports on hundreds of industries and data for states, counties and places – even some for zip codes. Businesses, communities and governments use Economic Census Data for planning and market development. In December 2002, more than 5 million businesses in America will receive economic census forms, 130,000 forms will be distributed in Massachusetts. Businesses should watch for these census forms and complete them as soon as they arrive. Contact Bruce Hughes.

OCPC Update

Staff:

Welcome to:

Susan McGrath, GIS Coordinator
Edward Coviello, Planning Assistant
Michael Mauro, Planning Assistant

Visit Our Website
www.ocpcrpa.org

Old Colony Planning Council
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OCPC TO INSTALL OFFICERS FOR 2004-2005

Old Colony Planning Council will hold its 37th Annual Meeting at BR's Monponsett Inn, Halifax, MA on Thursday, May 27th. The Council uses this occasion to install its officers for the coming program year. Mr. John Mather, Chairman of the Nominating Committee and a Past President of the Council will conduct the installation of officers at the meeting. Elected to serve as Council Officers for 2004-2005 were Robert Overholtzer, President; Joseph P. Landolfi, Secretary; and, Jeanmarie Kent Joyce as Treasurer.

The speaker for the meeting will be ***Michael J. Widmer, President of the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation.*** Mr. Widmer will discuss the economy, the fiscal health of the Commonwealth and the state budget. For reservations or information contact Pat Ciaramella, Executive Director.

JOHN J. DEMARCO PARK DEDICATED

On Sunday, April 25, 2004 the John J. DeMarco Park was dedicated in Avon at the site of the former Swedish Lutheran Children's Home. Mr. DeMarco was instrumental in the creation of this park. Mr. DeMarco was a charter delegate to OCPC from the Town of Avon. He served as Council President from 1973 to 1979 and from 1985 to 1989. Mr. DeMarco was elected to the Avon Planning Board in 1965. While serving on the planning board he was instrumental in creating the successful Avon Industrial Park. He was elected to the Board of Selectmen in 1975. Mr. DeMarco served as an elected official in Avon for 35 years. Mr. DeMarco was a tireless advocate for the Town of Avon and OCPC. He passed away in August, 2001.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning

The Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC) recently received a grant to develop a regional, multi-jurisdictional Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Plan with fifteen (15) individual community annexes. The grant will support cooperative development of each community's PDM, identifying natural hazards, critical infrastructure, and mitigation strategies. Adoption of a plan is required to participate in the Federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program after November 2004. As such, we are now forming a Multiple Hazard Community Planning Team (MHCPT), which would include at least two members from each community appointed by the Boards of Selectmen. Team members will then assist OCPC in identifying local hazards and critical facilities within their communities, and OCPC will provide GIS Mapping

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Abington, Avon, Bridgewater, Brockton, East Bridgewater, Easton, Halifax, Hanson, Kingston, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton, Stoughton, West Bridgewater and Whitman

and assistance in the development of the community's Mitigation Plan.

2004 CEDS Report Update Completed

The Old Colony Planning Council Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Committee has completed an update of the Old Colony Planning Council Economic Development District Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Report. The CEDS Committee completely revised this document last year as the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) calls for every five years. The CEDS Committee approved the 2004 CEDS Report Update at their April 17, 2004 meeting and the OCPC Executive Council approved it at their April 28, 2004 meeting. The updated CEDS Report will be submitted to EDA in June.

Executive Order 418 Activities

The Council continues to work on and oversee production of Community Development Plans funded under the State's Executive Order 418. These are administered by the Community Development Plan Inter-Agency Working Group comprised of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Department of Economic Development, and the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction, and draw on State grants $30,000 per community.

The purpose is to focus on resources, opportunities and needed actions in the key areas of Resource Protection and Open Space, Housing, Economic Development, and Tra[illegible] except where recent w[illegible]nsportation was found to be equivalent to that element. The plans are not Master Plans since they give little attention to items such as infrastructure, community facilities, and overall goals and objectives. Instead they builds on recent master plan work to create these more focused, image-based, action-oriented Development Plans in the four key areas. They rely heavily on geographic information system maps of natural resources, development constraints, and land suitable for Housing, Economic Development, Open Space/Resource Protection, or Transportation Improvements. The findings are pulled together in a Final Community Development Plan and map reconciling any conflicting findings and showing the key recommendations.

To date the Council has completed and delivered the Abington CD Plan, completed the Pembroke CD plan which awaits printing, drafted the Whitman Plan except for the maps, and drafted much of the Avon Plan. The Council is also administering the funds and overseeing production of West Bridgewater plan, completed by consultant Larry Koff and the Hanson Plan being completed by consultant Carol Thomas. All plans are due by the end of June.

Transportation Celebrated in the Month of May

May 16-22 is National Transportation Week, which provides an opportunity for the transportation community to join together in promoting greater awareness of the importance of transportation. A list of events is available on MassBike's Web site, www.massbike.org.

For more information please visit OCPC's web-site at ***ocpcrpa.org***.

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PICTOMETRY COMING SOON TO OCPC MEMBER COMMUNITIES

Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC) of Brockton is the regional distributor of high-resolution oblique digital imagery, recently acquired through a contract with MassHighway and Pictometry International, of Rochester, NY. Currently, OCPC is scheduling the delivery of the imagery and software to member communities and will provide tech support and training to end-users in individual departments.

Pictometry's industry leading software enables users to quickly and easily access up to 12 different high-resolution views of any property, building, highway, landmark, or other feature in the region. The software also enables end-users to obtain measurements directly from the imagery as well as insert GIS content and other data.

Given today's Homeland Security concerns, Pictometry imagery and software is a useful tool for first responders, as well as assessors, planners, building inspectors, public safety agencies, GIS, and public works departments. A large button touch screen feature is available for vehicle-mounted laptop applications.

The images were acquired by MassHighway and are being delivered through regional planning agencies. Old Colony Planning Council is hosting several Pictometry End User Training Sessions. Representatives from each municipality are invited to attend one or more of the following training sessions. The lecture based session conducted by Pictometry International and designed for elected officials and employees of member communities that will be using the software, will be held on November 3rd, 10:00 a.m. at Kingston Town Hall and November 16th, 10:00 a.m. at Bridgewater State College.

(Note that the licensed software and imagery is not for general use and the training sessions are not open to the general public.)

For more information, contact:
Susan McGrath, GIS Coordinator

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Abington, Avon, Bridgewater, Brockton, East Bridgewater, Easton, Halifax, Hanson, Kingston, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton, Stoughton, West Bridgewater and Whitman

Smart Growth Seminar

Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC) and Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) will host a November seminar on the new state Smart Growth policy. The session will feature, in addition to the regional planning agencies, Secretary Douglas I. Foy, of the Office for Commonwealth Development, and Secretary Ranch Kimball, of the Executive Office of Economic Development. Smart Growth issues slated for discussion include buildouts, 418 Community Plans and other state initiatives. Smart Growth and Economic Development policies and how they might effect OCPC and Southeastern Massachusetts are another major topic for discussion, as well as best practices for Smart Growth, with examples to be offered.

The Romney Administration Smart Growth Initiatives will be touched on, such as Commonwealth Capital, Technical Assistance, Grant Programs and Transit Oriented Development (TOD).

The workshop will be held on Thursday, November 18, 2004 from 7:30-10:00 a.m., at the Umass Dartmouth ***Advanced Technology & Manufacturing Center*** in Fall River. Register as soon as possible by email Lauren.curtis@state.ma.us, or fax 617-573-1399.

OCPC awarded Mobile Grant

Redlands, California-ESRI, the leading developer of geographic information system (GIS) software and spatial solutions for local government, and Trimble, a leading innovator of global positioning system (GPS) technology, announced Old Colony Planning Council as one of twenty nationwide winners of a 2004 ESRI and Trimble Mobile Government Grant. OCPC will receive GPS and GIS software, hardware, and train[illegible]ing $8,500 to be utilized in [illegible]pment of "Building Better Connections: A Regional Bike and Pedestrian Way Inventory and Management Plan".

Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Statewide Elder Needs Assessment Survey

The OCPC Area Agency on Aging is in the process of collecting names and addresses from the communities in the AAA region in preparation for the statewide Elder Needs Assessment project. This survey project will help OCPC to establish service priorities for the FFY 2006-2009 Area Plan on Aging. The survey process will begin in early January.

District Improvement Finance (DIF) Program available to all cities and towns

DIF enables municipalities to finance public works and infrastructure by pledging future incremental taxes resulting from growth within a designated area to service financing obligations. For more info please call: Tricia Singer, DIF Program Director MA Office of Business Development (617) 973-8618

OCPC Submits 2004 CEDS Update to EDA

OCPC has submitted the 2004 update of the OCPC Economic Development District Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) for approval. This document is an update of the CEDS that was completely updated in 2003. EDA requires the CEDS to be Completely rewritten every five years. For more info please call Bruce Hughes.

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*OCPC welcomes two new transportation interns **Katie Moulding** and **Jed Cornock**..*

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*For more information please visit OCPC's web-site at **ocpcrpa.org**.*

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